CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended) A camera comprising a strobe for supplying light to a scene, the strobe flashing repeatedly throughout an interval during which composition of a photograph occurs.
- 2. (Original) The camera of claim 1 further comprising a preview mode wherein the strobe flashes repeatedly.
- 3. (Original) The camera of claim 2 further comprising a user control by which the user selects the preview mode.
- 4. (Currently amended) The camera of claim 3 wherein:
 - a) in response to a first setting of the user control, the strobe flashes repeatedly throughout the interval during the which composition of a photograph occurs;
 and
 - b) in response to a second setting of the user control, the strobe does not flash during the composition of a photograph.
- 5. (Original) The camera of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a) a light sensor, and
 - b) comparison means for comparing a light level measured with the light sensor to a threshold value, and wherein

the camera enables strobe flashes during composition of a photograph when the light level is below the threshold value, and disables the strobe flashes during composition of a photograph when the light level is above the threshold value.

6. (Original) The camera of claim 1 further comprising strobe electronics for driving the strobe, the strobe electronics having an energy storage capacity, each strobe flash during composition of a photograph dissipating less than all of the energy stored in the strobe electronics.

- 7. (Original) The camera of claim 6 wherein the amount of strobe energy dissipated for one strobe flash is different from the amount of strobe energy dissipated for another strobe flash.
- 8. (Original) The camera of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a) an electronic array light sensor; and
 - a logic unit that controls the electronic array light sensor and receives image data from the electronic array light sensor; and
- c) a display that displays an image under control of the logic unit; wherein the camera takes and displays preview photographs repeatedly on the display during composition of a final photograph by the user, and wherein the camera flashes the strobe once for each preview image.
- 9. (Original) The camera of claim 8 wherein the camera flashes the strobe more often than once for each preview image.
- 10. (Original) The camera of claim 9 wherein at least one of the preview images may use a different number strobe flashes than another preview image.
- 11. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a camera comprising flashing a strobe repeatedly throughout an interval during which composition of a photograph occurs.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:
 - a) detecting a user control; and
 - b) entering a preview mode in response to the detecting step.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:

- a) exiting the preview mode; and
- b) suspending the repeated flashes of the strobe.
- 14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
 - a) in response to a first setting of the user control, entering the preview mode and flashing the strobe repeatedly throughout the interval during which composition of a photograph occurs; and
 - b) in response to a second setting of the user control, entering the preview mode without flashing the strobe.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising using a preview photograph taken during composition of a final photograph in determining the proper strobe energy to use in taking the final photograph.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising dissipating less than all of an energy storage capacity of strobe electronics with each flash of the strobe during composition of a photograph.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the amount of strobe energy dissipated for one strobe flash is different from the amount of strobe energy dissipated for another strobe flash.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of.
 - a) measuring the scene lighting level using a light sensor; and
 - b) comparing the scene lighting level with a threshold value; and
 - c) enabling the strobe flashes during composition of a photograph when the scene lighting level is below the threshold value and disabling the strobe flashes during composition when the scene lighting level is above the threshold value.
- 19. (Currently amended) A camera comprising:

- a) strobe means for supplying light to a scene; and
- b) electronics means for driving the strobe; and
- c) logic means for controlling the strobe and electronics means, wherein the logic means flashes the strobe repeatedly throughout an interval during which composition of a photograph is performed by a user of the camera.
- 20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising: taking preview photographs repeatedly during composition of a final photograph;

displaying the preview photographs on a display comprised in the camera; and flashing the strobe at least once for each preview photograph.

- 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising flashing the strobe more often than once for each preview photograph.
- 22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising flashing the strobe a different number of times for one preview photograph than for another preview photograph.
- 23. (New) A camera, comprising:
 - a strobe for supplying light to a scene; and
 - a shutter release having a partially depressed position and a fully depressed position;
 - the camera flashing the strobe repeatedly throughout an interval beginning after a time when the shutter release reaches the partially depressed position and ending at a time when the shutter release reaches the fully depressed position.
- 24. (New) A method, comprising:

- detecting that a shutter release of a camera has reached a partially depressed position;
- initiating repeated flashing of a strobe of the camera after the reaching of the partially depressed position; and
- continuing the repeated flashing until detecting that the shutter release has reached a fully depressed position.